



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Gene Edward AUSTIN, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/607,010

Group Art Unit: 3733

FILED: June 26, 2003

EXAMINER: Shaffer, Richard R.

FOR: EXTERNAL FIXATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 39262/285776
(01-31-0780)

DATE: October 16, 2007

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims and consider the following remarks in response to the Final Office Action mailed June 22, 2007 (the "Action"). A Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") is being filed concurrently herewith.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Petition for One-Month Time Extension begins on page 12 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 13 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 16, 2007.



Geoffrey K. Gavin - Registration No. 47,591